

News Highlights Jan. 11-17, 2013

Associated Press

Preservationists identify NC's oldest house

Preservationists with the N.C. Historic Preservation Office (HPO), architectural historians with the Architectural Research Department at Colonial Williamsburg and local historians spent two years researching the history of a house in Edenton planned for use as rental property. It has now been identified as the oldest dated house in North Carolina. Timbers in the one-and-a-half story structure date back to 1718 or 1719. Read coverage based on our news release and see a photo here and here, <a href=here, <

Greater Diversity News

Cultural Resources Secretary Susan Kluttz Hits the Job Running

N.C. Department of Cultural Resources Secretary Susan Kluttz took the oath of office on Jan. 5. By Jan. 9 she was meeting with the African American Heritage Commission (AAHC) to discuss the state's observance of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and the commission's ongoing work with the Freedom Trails in North Carolina. Read more here.

Southport Times

Highway Historical Marker To Commemorate Blockade Runner Modern Greece

In conjunction with the observation of the 148th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Fisher on Jan. 19, a North Carolina Highway Historical Marker will be dedicated for the Confederate blockade runner *Modern Greece* on Jan. 14 at the Fort Fisher Visitor Center. As a result of this shipwreck's discovery, the state created our Underwater Archaeology Branch (one of the nation's first) to oversee that preservation and to do an archaeological assessment of North Carolina's submerged cultural resources. Read more and see an archival photo here.

Examiner.com

Free educational event at North Carolina's Fort Fisher

The Fort Fisher State Historic Site' living history event Jan. 19 will feature displays of Civil War camp life and volunteers talking about the life of the Confederate infantry and artillery troops. This 148th anniversary program focuses on the Confederate defenders at Sheppard's Battery and around the "Bloody Gate" on the left flank of Fort Fisher, the location of the Civil War's largest land-sea battle, which is featured in the award-nominated movie "Lincoln". Read more and see a photo here.

Beach Carolina Magazine

American Idol Winner Scotty McCreery Exhibit at the Museum of the Albemarle

In 2011 Garner native Scotty McCreery became the youngest male and first country music singer to win on the hit TV series "American Idol." The outfit he wore during his final performance on the show is among objects displayed in an exhibit that opens Jan. 19 at the Museum of the Albemarle, on loan from the N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh. McCreery's grandmother, an Elizabeth City resident, will take part in the opening ceremony. Read more and see an exhibit photo here.

WTVD-TV

Heart of Carolina Perspectives: African American Cultural Celebration

"Heart of Carolina" host Angela Hampton interviewed Emily Grant (N.C. Museum of History) and Michelle Lanier (African American Heritage Commission and N.C. Arts Council) about programs celebrating Black History Month in February for a "Perspectives" segment. They also discussed the significance of this year's Emancipation Proclamation anniversary. View that interview here.

The Herald-Sun

Blue Greenberg: Tar Heel customs and governing through the ages

Since the American Revolution and before, the state's governors had their own old boys' network and their wives were the first ladies. That changed in 2009 when Beverly Perdue was elected to office and her husband became the first gentleman; from now on, the spouse of the sitting governor will be referred to as the first spouse. After this week's inaugural ball, N.C. Museum of History Director Kenneth Howard will call the office of new Gov. Pat McCrory to request the governor's tuxedo and his wife's ball gown for the museum's permanent collection. Read more and see exhibit photos here.

Beach Carolina Magazine

Outer Banks History Center to Debut New Exhibit March 1

Despite the Great Depression, the 1930s were times of great change in Dare County, but local and regional projects created opportunities for economic growth and eventually brought the region into national prominence. The Outer Banks History Center tells this story in a new exhibit debuting March 1, "Dare County in the 1930s: Decade of Determination." Read more and see an archival photo here.